

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

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XMB-02 OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 FEA-01

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R 101704Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7220

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMCONSUL HAMILTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 0351

DEPT PLEASE PASS ALL ARA POSTS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR ELAB VE

SUBJECT: LEADING VENEZUELAN TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION CALLS
FOR A HEMISPHERE LABOR MEETING TO DISCUSS TRADE LAW

REF: CARACAS 213

1. VENEZUELA'S LEADING LABOR ORGANIZATION, THE CONFEDERATION OF VENEZUELAN WORKERS (CTV), HAS SENT A LENGTHY MESSAGE TO ALL OF THE PRINCIPAL LABOR MOVEMENTS OF THE HEMISPHERE INCLUDING THOSE OF CUBA, THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA, AS WELL AS THE LATIN AMERICA CENTER OF WORKERS (CLAT), THE INTER-AMERICAN REGIONAL ORGANIZATION OF WORKERS (ORIT), AND THE INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS (ICFTU). THIS MESSAGE CONTAINS AN EXTENSIVE BILL OF PARTICULARS OUTLINING THE CTV'S PERCEPTION OF ECONOMIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE "THIRD WORLD" AND THE INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS. IT DEFENDS THE FORMATION OF PRIMARY PRODUCT PRODUCER CARTELS AND OBJECTS STRONGLY TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE TRADE
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LAW WHICH "DISCRIMINATE AGAINST VENEZUELA AND ECUADOR AS

MEMBERS OF THE ORGANIZATION OF PETROLEUM EXPORTING COUNTRIES (OPEC)." THE CTV CALLS FOR THE ADDRESSEES TO URGE THEIR RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS TO DISCUSS THIS ISSUE WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES (OAS), THUS SUPPORTING THE GOV INITIATIVE.

2. WHILE FAILING TO SPECIFY TIME OR PLACE THE CTV CALLS FOR A "CONTINENTAL (WESTERN HEMISPHERE) TRADE UNION MEETING" TO "STUDY THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE NORTHAMERICAN (U.S.) POLICY AND TO EXAMINE THE SITUATION OF THE WORKERS WITHIN THE ECONOMIC CRISIS WHICH PERVADES THE CONTINENT." (FULL TEXT FOLLOWS TO DEPARTMENT)

3. COMMENT: WHILE THE GESTURE OF INCLUDING THE U.S. LABOR MOVEMENT AMONG THE INVITEES IS AN INDICATION OF THE CTV'S DESIRE TO MAINTAIN GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE AFL-CIO, THE INCLUSION OF CUBA IS DETRIMENTAL TO U.S. INTERESTS. HOWEVER, THE GESTATION OF THE CTV MESSAGE OCCURRED PRIOR TO THE DEPARTMENT'S ANNOUNCEMENT THAT THE SECRETARY WOULD ATTEMPT TO CONVINCE CONGRESS TO EXEMPT VENEZUELA AND ECUADOR FROM THE OPEC PROVISION OF THE TRADE LAW. CTV SOURCES PRIVATELY STATE THAT THE CTV HAS NO REAL INTENTION TO GO THROUGH WITH THE MEETING PROPOSED IN THEIR STATEMENT. THEY SAY THAT THE MEETING WAS CALLED IN ORDER TO CLOSE OFF CLAT WHICH HAD PLANNED TO ISSUE A SIMILAR CALL.
MILLS

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ALL ARA POSTS.

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